

BEFORE THE
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of:

PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT,

v.

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT.

OAH Case No. 2015010581

ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR
CONTINUANCE AND SETTING
MEDIATION, PREHEARING
CONFERENCE AND DUE PROCESS
HEARING

On February 5, 2015, the parties jointly filed a request to continue the dates in this matter. The initial hearing date is March 11, 2015.

A due process hearing must be conducted and a decision rendered within 45 days of receipt of the due process notice unless an extension is granted for good cause. (34 C.F.R. § 300.515(a) & (c) (2006); Ed. Code, §§ 56502, subd. (f), 56505, subd. (f)(3); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 1020.) As a result, continuances are disfavored. Good cause may include the unavailability of a party, counsel, or an essential witness due to death, illness or other excusable circumstances; substitution of an attorney when the substitution is required in the interests of justice; a party's excused inability to obtain essential testimony or other material evidence despite diligent efforts; or another significant, unanticipated change in the status of the case as a result of which the case is not ready for hearing. (See Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.1332(c).) OAH considers all relevant facts and circumstances, including the proximity of the hearing date; previous continuances or delays; the length of continuance requested; the availability of other means to address the problem giving rise to the request; prejudice to a party or witness as a result of a continuance; the impact of granting a continuance on other pending hearings; whether trial counsel is engaged in another trial; whether the parties have stipulated to a continuance; whether the interests of justice are served by the continuance; and any other relevant fact or circumstance. (See Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.1332(d).)

OAH has reviewed the request for good cause and considered all relevant facts and circumstances. The request is:

☒ Granted. All dates are vacated. Please note, however, the dates requested by the parties for the prehearing conference and due process hearing are only one business day apart, and less than 5 business days before the requested mediation. Additionally, the parties have requested non-consecutive dates for hearing. OAH schedules hearing dates on consecutive days, Monday through Thursday. The parties can discuss scheduling conflicts, if any exist, at the prehearing conference.

Therefore, the dates requested are modified, and the matter will be set as follows:

Mediation:	April 14, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.
Prehearing Conference:	April 20, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.
Due Process Hearing:	April 27, 2015 at 1:30 p.m., April 28, and 29, 2015 at 9:00 a.m., and continuing day to day, Monday through Thursday, as needed at the discretion of the Administrative Law Judge.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATE: February 5, 2015

/s/

ADRIENNE L. KRIKORIAN
Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings